



PATENT APPLICATION

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 2823**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroji AGA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2823

Application No.: 09/857,803

Examiner: M. Estrada

Filed: June 11, 2001

Docket No.: 109725

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING SOI WAFER AND SOI WAFER

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the January 16, 2004 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-3 and 6-8 are pending in this application, claims 6-8 having been withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the remarks below regarding each of claims 1-3 apply equally to their respective dependent claims 6-8. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that, upon allowance of claims 1-3, claims 6-8 should be rejoined and allowed.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over the combination of Japanese Patent JP-10275905 to Yamamoto and U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0127820 to Sato. The Office Action also rejects claims 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the combination of Yamamoto and Sato as applied to claims 1 and 2,